

# AIRLIFT Dispatch

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437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, December 13, 2002



Photo by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter

## There's no place like home for the holidays

Eighteen-month-old Kiaria Matos and her mother, Maria, welcome daddy home. Senior Airman Jesse Matos, 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron, returned Dec. 6 from a three-month deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Many other Team Charleston personnel are scheduled to come home before Christmas.

## New program makes filling forms easier

A new information management tool software package has arrived to replace the FormFlow program used for more than a decade.

After nearly a year of extensive testing and research into ways to improve form support to warfighters, the Air Force Departmental Publishing Office has selected PureEdge Solutions as this replacement technology.

Charleston AFB users are scheduled to begin receiving the new software today, according to Staff Sgt. Beverly Bennett, 437<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron assistant publications manager.

The program is a "quantum leap" over previous ways users processed data or exchanged information, said Carolyn J. Watkins-Taylor, AFDPO director.

An information management tool,

See IMT, page 7

## Incident at BX points out need for awareness SFS commander reminds base to keep an 'Eagle Eye' open

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter  
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A Base Exchange employee was injured here Sunday night when two men assaulted him after he observed them acting suspiciously near a BX storage container.

Robert Trout, BX store detective, was apparently struck on the head with a hard object and then cut four times in the upper chest, accord-

ing to Maj. Jeffery Hunt, 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron commander.

"Between 10-10:30 p.m., (Trout) was checking the exterior of the facility when he observed two individuals tampering with storage containers," Hunt said. "The individuals attacked him immediately. They got into a scuffle, and (Trout) said he thinks he may have broken one of their arms."

It was during that time when Trout was struck

in the head and cut, Hunt said.

"The two perpetrators fled the scene, and (Trout) carried himself to the back door of the BX, where he buzzed for entry," Hunt said. "His coworkers let him in, ... and called 911."

The 437 SFS and the 437 CES Fire Department responded to the call, Hunt said.

Trout was transported to the Trident Medical

See BX, page 6

Warrior spirit: Everyone, every day – anticipating and preparing for future missions

## COMMENTARY

# Commander's Comments

By COL. BROOKS BASH  
437 AW COMMANDER

We have had a number of important visitors this week, all of whom were impressed with what they saw of Team Charleston. **Lt. Col. A. J. McMillan** and the entire staff of the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Safety office orchestrated a visit from Air Mobility Command safety inspectors, demonstrating how CAFB integrates safety considerations in every aspect of the mission.

We also hosted Deputy Undersecretary of the Air Force for International Affairs Willard Mitchell with a group of Aerospace Industry Association executives on Monday, and a group of civic leaders from MacDill AFB, Fla., Wednesday and Thursday. These visits take a true team effort; special thanks to **Rose Alexander** for arranging the visits, and to all the people in units throughout the base that supported the tours.

On Thursday, the Air Force honored Senator Strom Thurmond in a ceremony naming one of CAFB's C-17s "Spirit of Strom Thurmond." The senator is a long-time friend and supporter of the Air Force and the base, and I was honored to be part of the ceremony recognizing his contributions to our nation's defense.



Col. Brooks Bash  
437 AW commander

Thanks to **Maj. David Siegrist** for coordinating CAFB's role in the ceremony.

I had a unique opportunity Monday to visit our base honor guard as they demonstrated how they provide military funeral honors. Our honor guard, led by 2<sup>nd</sup> **Lt. Letitia Dawson**, OIC, and **Staff Sgt. Damien Tymes**, NCOIC, is the second busiest in AMC, performing an average of 25 funeral ceremonies a month. I encourage anyone interested — including senior NCOs and officers — to contact their unit first sergeant to volunteer to be part of this important group.

**Senior Airman Vijay Mahabub** celebrated her birthday as my "shadow" this past week. As a customer support technician in the 437<sup>th</sup> Comptroller Squadron, she processes and audits travel vouchers. In her off-duty time, she is active in her squadron booster club and volunteers to help underprivileged children in the community. I am proud to have her as part of Team Charleston.

Congratulations to **Capt. Tony Carr**, a pilot in the 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, on his selection to participate in the 2003 Air Force Intern Program. The 13-month program provides a unique opportunity for captains to sharpen their leadership skills in a fast-paced environment. It combines hands-on experience as an intern on the joint staff, office of the secretary of defense, secretary of the Air Force or air staff arena with graduate courses in leadership and management at George Washington University.

Mark your calendars for the Jingle Jog Wednesday. I've extended a personal invitation to the current **Airman Leadership School** class to come set the pace. The run should also be well-attended by the chiefs, who will no doubt use the run as a pre-game warm-up for the Chiefs vs. Eagles game that afternoon.

Many parties mark the holiday season, and I have enjoyed dropping in on a number of them. As you celebrate the season with friends and family, please keep safety uppermost. If you plan to drink, do so responsibly, and use a designated driver. Look out for each other, and be safe!

## Commander answers Action Line callers' concerns

### Pharmacy volunteers

**Q:** *I am upset about our experiences with the volunteers at the base pharmacy. When I get my prescriptions from there, they ask me to tell them what medication it is, which shouldn't be necessary. It's embarrassing enough to be on the medications and bring in my prescriptions to be filled, but there is no reason I should feel like I need to go off base for medications that are carried on base.*

**A:** Thank you for your comments. I agree patient privacy must always be taken seriously in the pharmacy and throughout the clinic. Under no circumstances should volunteers be asking or conversing with the patient about medication information. All personnel working in the pharmacy have been trained on patient privacy and will be reminded of this policy. Additionally, the 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group is in the process of enhancing its capabilities to offer improved patient privacy at the pharmacy. We remain committed to providing the highest quality medical care for beneficiaries, and value the contribution our volunteers make to the pharmacy. Again, thank you for this opportunity to address your concerns.

### Special needs

**Q:** *We were recently told that if you have a high-risk pregnancy, you do not qualify for the Exceptional*

The Commander's Action Line is your direct link to me. It's your opportunity to make Charleston AFB a better place to live, work and play.

First, give the appropriate base agency a chance to solve the problem, but if you don't get a satisfactory answer, call me at **963-5581**, or send an e-mail to [action@charleston.af.mil](mailto:action@charleston.af.mil).

To ensure you receive a response to your concerns, please leave your name and the information needed to contact you.

*Family Member Program. If this is true, I would like to know why. We have three children, and I am pregnant with number four. I am high risk, and am bedridden most of the time because of complications with this pregnancy. If my husband goes TDY for three or six months, who takes care of my children? We have no family here and no friends we can depend on to help with this dilemma.*

**A:** Thank you for your inquiry regarding the Exceptional Family Member Program, which is now known as the Special Needs Identification and Assignment Coordination Process. Unfortunately, relief for your spouse from his TDY/deployment obligations does not fall under the auspices of this program. In this situation, your specific needs should be worked through your husband's commander.

The Special Needs Identification and Assignment Coordination Process is designed to help the assignment process of active duty people with family members who have exceptional medical, educational and/or psychological needs. Active duty members are enrolled when family members meet the criteria for enrollment. Specifically, family members must have a chronic medical condition, receive repeated out-patient, hospitalizations or emergency department care, receive specialty medical services like Neurology, Ophthalmology, Cardiology, Rheumatology, medically related services like Speech, Physical and Occupational Therapy, and/or special educational services. Each family is assessed on a case-by-case basis, including those family members having high-risk pregnancies. Typically, this diagnosis alone is not enough to meet the criteria, as it is not considered chronic. However, depending on each family member's unique situation, additional criteria may be met that would constitute enrollment.

I encourage all active-duty members who believe they may have a family member with exceptional needs to contact Capt. Patricia Finkenberg at 963-6972 to discuss further assessment and available Air Force and civilian resources.

— Col. Brooks Bash  
437 AW commander

## Work, family, body, mind

# Good balance of life activities basis for success

By COL. JOHN HILL  
437 MDG COMMANDER

Balance. A good balance of your life activities can be the basis for success. It isn't rocket science, yet it may be something that you haven't thought about much.

There are four major elements in a person's daily life: work, family, body and mind. They are interrelated and intertwined, but real success is achieved when you can find the best balance.

Work: it can be never-ending. As proud members of the military, we feel a drive to give it our all and function as if work is the most important thing in our life. Our desire to give our best may push us to try to accomplish the ultimate—to do more than may be possible. Frustration can set in, and we can overlook our many accomplishments, choosing instead to see that last 10 percent that went unfinished. To be truly effective at work, we need a balance with the other elements.

### worth repeating

You'll find yourself most successful if you can integrate all four elements in your daily life, not overemphasizing any one at the expense of the others.

—COL. JOHN HILL  
437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group commander



Family: a good balance dictates that we remember the importance of family. We can lose touch with them if we do not give family our constant attention. Time away is unavoidable and makes time at home even more important. Make the most of time with your family—once missed, it can never be retrieved. It's a cliché, but you'll never hear a man on his death bed state that his greatest regret is that he didn't spend more time at work. Your family can be your greatest source of strength.

Body: the body requires constant maintenance, just as any other complex machine. We need exercise and relaxation based on a healthy lifestyle that includes

eating and drinking in moderation. A routine of physical activity and exercise can keep the machinery operating at peak performance. Watching what you put into your body and how much of it can also reduce your susceptibility to disease and extend your life.

Mind: the final element is the mental activity. This includes both exercising your mind and letting it rest. Exercising the mind includes mental stimulation, such as studying for a degree or becoming more knowledgeable at a chosen interest. You can rest your mind through recreation, which comes in many forms. It may be reading, participating in sports, watching TV or going to the movies. Spiritual

activity is another important aspect of this element, whether church, synagogue or private meditation. All these examples are important to mental health in that they help you manage life's problems and worries, and keep them in perspective.

As individuals, each of us chooses to emphasize one element over the others, and there's nothing wrong with that. With a balance of all four elements, you may find achievement of lofty goals of little value if in doing so you have lost your family or developed chronic health problems because you didn't take care of your physical and mental health.

You'll find yourself most successful if you can integrate all four elements in your daily life, not overemphasizing any one at the expense of the others.

Take care of the "whole person." Remember balance. Work hard to give the Air Force your best, but give time and effort to each of the elements.

## TERRORISM: *Is CAFB a team player or bench warmer?*

By TECH. SGT. TIM MOORE  
437 SFS ANTITERRORISM PROGRAM MANAGER

What exactly is terrorism? Terrorism has always been difficult to define, but the Air Force says terrorism is the calculated use of violence or threat of violence to incubate fear; intended to coerce or to intimidate governments or society in the pursuit of goals that are generally political, religious or ideological.

Terrorism is by no means anything new. Since the communist insurgent movements in China, Cuba and Nicaragua, terrorists have proven to the world that a small, poorly trained and equipped force with proper leader-

ship can defeat a larger established power.

There are only five stages to a terrorist incident, which can be simple to carry out: select a target; conduct surveillance; plan the operation; rehearse the operation; and then carry it out. So what does this all mean to you?

Simply put, you can reduce the risk of terrorism by becoming an active team player. Think about it for a moment. Do you sit on the bench and let security forces deal with all the force protection stuff, or do you take an active role and become a member of the team?

Antiterrorism is a team approach relying on

each individual in the wing.

From the lowest ranking enlisted, to our civilian work force and family members, right up to the highest-ranking officer, we each own a part of the process.

Become involved in antiterrorism. Report suspicious activity and conduct the random antiterrorism measures correctly. Don't walk through the motions, but be inquisitive and look for things out of the ordinary. If you observe something out of the norm, report the situation immediately to proper authorities. Take one for the team and do your part.

For questions or concerns, contact SFS at [force.protection2@charleston.af.mil](mailto:force.protection2@charleston.af.mil).

## AIRLIFT Dispatch

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## NEWS

## JUSTICE FILES: Article 15s, Discharges for Oct.-Nov.

By STAFF SERGEANTS GLENJULIA MAZYCK  
AND NICHELLE CUNNINGHAM  
437 AW MILITARY JUSTICE

## Article 15 Actions

A senior airman failed to go to his appointed place of duty on two separate occasions.

**Punishment: Suspended forfeitures of \$100 pay per month for two months; seven days extra duty; reprimand**

An airman first class failed to refrain from consuming alcohol while under the legal drinking age.

**Punishment: Reduction to airman**

A staff sergeant failed to refrain from using his government travel card for non-official purposes.

**Punishment: Suspended reduction to senior airman, 14 days**

## extra duty; reprimand

An airman first class violated a lawful order, by driving a motorized vehicle on base while his driving privileges were suspended.

**Punishment: Suspended reduction to airman; seven days extra duty; reprimand**

An airman was under the influence of alcohol with a BAC of .15 while operating a motor vehicle on base.

**Punishment: Reduction to airman basic; 21 days extra duty; reprimand**

An airman failed to go to his appointed place of duty on diverse occasions.

**Punishment: 21 days correc-**

**tional custody was later mitigated to 21 days extra duty; suspended reduction to airman basic; reprimand**

An airman first class stole military property from a military housing unit of a value less than \$500. He unlawfully entered a Charleston AFB housing unit and was disorderly when being detained.

**Punishment: Suspended reduction to airman; reprimand**

A senior airman was under the influence of alcohol with a BAC of .18, while operating a vehicle at a deployed location.

**Punishment: Reduction to airman first class; seven days extra duty; reprimand**



A senior airman wrote two checks while failing to maintain sufficient funds in her bank account. She also failed to pay a just debt.

**Punishment: Reduction to airman first class; reprimand**

## Administrative Discharges

A staff sergeant, two senior airmen and an airman first class were discharged with Honorable Discharges for failure to meet Weight and Body Fat Management Standards.

An airman basic and an airman first class were discharged for Minor Disciplinary Infractions with General Discharges.

An airman first class was discharged for a Pattern of Misconduct with a General Discharge.

## BX

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Center where he was treated and released.

Security forces performed a complete sector search of the base and closed down outbound traffic in an effort to catch the suspects, Hunt said. As of publication, the suspects have not been found. The Charleston County Sheriff's Office has the lead in the investigation.

Because the incident involved civilians, the Charleston County Sheriff's Office also processed the scene, Hunt said. The base usually calls on the county for help when civilians are involved because the 437 SFS has limited legal options when it comes to dealing with civilians.

While incidents such as this are rare on Charleston AFB, they can happen.

"This really reinforces the need for awareness," Hunt said. "We (437 SFS) go a lot of places on base, and we are very active in our policing roles, but we can't be everywhere."

People on base need to pay attention to their surroundings, he said. Any suspicious activity should be reported.

"What is suspicious activity?" Hunt said. "People climbing fences or walking through your neighborhood at odd hours. People wandering around who look like they have no affiliation with the base."

Hunt said people should be aware of things that might not seem suspicious on the surface.

"How many times do you see someone walking along with a TV or a computer?" he said. "Did you ever stop to ask them 'Where are you going with that TV?' Question people's reasons for doing what they are doing."

People who live and work on base sometimes let their guard down because of the perception that crime only happens off base, said Senior Master Sgt. Richard Graves, 437 SFS Operations manager. While it's true that less crime happens on base, people need to be extra vigilant, he said, especially around the BX and base housing areas.

"We will maintain a very visible presence in that area," Hunt said. "People will see our cars and our forces out and about. Part of policing is getting out and talking to residents to get a good pulse on the community. That way they know we're there."

## HOW TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Anyone observing suspicious activity should call security forces immediately. Try to remember the following information: description of the person(s), to include height, weight, race, sex, age, clothing and the vehicle they are operating. If possible, a make, model and license plate number and what they were doing. Never confront this type of person. Try to observe and

report. In case of a suspicious item, such as a package or parcel, do not touch or move the object.

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency: 911  
Security Forces: (24 Hrs) 963-3600  
Force Protection/Antiterrorism: 963-6146  
Air Force Office of Special Investigations: 963-4611

## Angel Tree program brings holiday cheer

By AIRMAN STEPHANIE HAMMER  
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Team Charleston's Angel Tree Program helps bring joy to the children of Team Charleston during the Christmas Holiday.

Angel Trees, displayed at the Base Chapel and Family Support Center, are decorated with angel cutouts bearing the age and gender of a certain child.

Anyone wishing to participate in the program can take an angel from the tree and then purchase, wrap and return gifts for that child.

"This gives a chance to play Santa and lets Team Charleston know that we care about our own," said Master Sgt. Ray Cordero, 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron first sergeant. "Our hope is that every Angel Tree cutout receives a gift."

"Pick an angel from the tree," he continued, "And be generous."

Each first sergeant is in charge of utilizing supervisors and superintendents to decide who may need assistance from the Angel Tree program this year, according to Cordero.

"Sometimes, it may just be the shirts' knowledge of a person's situation that will help them decide if they need help," said Cordero.

The program will continue through the month of December. For more information, call Master Sgt. Janet Osborne at 963-4888.

# Command-wide efforts build quality of life

By CYNTHIA BAUER

AIR MOBILITY COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Air Mobility Command leaders are calling fiscal year 2002 one of the best years ever for their efforts to enhance the quality of life for people throughout the command by improving facilities and restoring base infrastructure.

The command and base civil engineers will continue to deliver on a long list of wing projects funded through Military Construction, Operations and Maintenance, Medical, Transportation Working Capital and Non-appropriated programs.

"This tremendously successful year was the result of tireless efforts of civil engineers, contracting and finance personnel at the wings and AMC headquarters. They planned, programmed, designed and awarded projects that address the command's most urgent requirements," said Gen. John W. Handy, AMC commander. "We concentrated on funding projects that support the mission, take care of our great people at AMC bases and in AMC units."

The AMC Civil Engineer, Maj. Gen. Dean Fox said, "What this boils down to is that AMC bases will see a lot of digging going on - digging that will mean improved support to the mission and people of AMC."

According to Connie Shelton, HQ AMC/CE Resources Division chief, AMC funded more than 450 projects throughout the command in

the fiscal year.

"We provided funds for construction in support of force protection facilities, to repair or replace airfield pavements and leaking roofs, and to repair roads and parking areas. We also funded projects to repair heating and air conditioning systems," Shelton said.

While CE projects can be found in all base areas, among the most noticeable will be housing projects. Military family housing projects received \$93 million for construction and renovation.

"AMC funded eight military construction projects to replace or provide whole-house improvements for 383 homes and upgrade three base housing offices," said Lt. Col. Bill Corson, HQ AMC/CE Housing Division chief. "Additionally, the command saw the largest program in six years for housing operations and maintenance, where \$31 million was awarded for upgrades to 224 homes and to replace electrical, gas, water and sewer lines. Home upgrades include new flooring and carpet, painting inside and out, renovation of kitchens and bathrooms, and new bedrooms sized to contemporary standards versus those of the 1950s."

Through O&M funds, the command also completed a four-year, effort to improve 230 playgrounds in base housing and bring them up to the latest safety standards. AMC is the first Air Force command to accomplish this feat.

The command also awarded funding for 20

other military construction projects, ranging from more than \$34 million for C-17 facilities and support projects at McGuire AFB, N.J., to \$1 million to upgrade the transportation infrastructure at McChord AFB, Wash.

HQ AMC/CE provided \$79 million for environmental projects, including continuing cleanup on 172 old spill sites, remediating contaminated soil and groundwater.

Other projects continue improvements to all areas of AMC bases. More than \$24 million was awarded to upgrade and repair hospitals and Health and Wellness Centers. Eight fire station projects worth over \$9 million began for new construction and repairs. Fitness centers, pools and athletic fields will benefit from funding for 27 additional upgrade projects, and 13 other projects will target chapels and other community support facilities such as auto hobby shops and base exchanges.

Natural gas, water, wastewater and electric utility systems will see 33 upgrade projects, and 19 projects will upgrade or construct new fuel systems. Another 19 projects were awarded for \$40 million to correct deficiencies or construct new squadron operations facilities. Base operations facilities received over \$10 million in repair projects. A total of 27 projects valued at over \$27 million were funded for aircraft maintenance facilities. Hangars and nose docks across the command will get repaired through 28 new projects.

## Tips for safer holiday decorating

### Trees:

- When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant." It indicates the tree will resist burning and should extinguish quickly.
- When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces and radiators.
- Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways.

### Lights:

- Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires or loose connections, and throw out damaged sets.
- Always replace burned-out bulbs promptly with the same wattage bulbs.
- Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord and make sure the extension cord is rated for the intended use.

### Decorations:

- Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree.
- Choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or nonleaded metals. Leaded materials are hazardous if ingested by children.
- Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. Always use non-flammable holders, and place candles where they will not be knocked down.
- Keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children to avoid the child swallowing or inhaling small pieces, and avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a child to eat them.

## IMT

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or IMT, is simply a form, but one that is far more advanced and user-friendly than the old FormFlow versions, Watkins-Taylor said.

Immediate benefits of the new software and its IMTs include digital signatures, document routing, spell checking, online or stand-alone mode and the ability to package a form and all related data into a single file. With FormFlow, the form and the data were separate elements, while with PureEdge, the IMT and the data always stay together.

"One of the main complaints about FormFlow is people say they keep losing their data," Watkins-Taylor said. "With this new solution they won't even have to look for the data because it will be with the document. The IMT maintains the integrity of the document with the data, and it also keeps any attachments that you might have."

Bennett, having used the new program, agreed.

"It's so user friendly," Bennett said. "Users can operate the software

immediately without any formal training at all"

Computer-based training for the new system is available, though, Bennett said.

Another benefit of the new software is that file sizes are kept to a minimum.

"The average IMT will be from 12 to 24 kilobytes, and that's small," Watkins-Taylor said. "With FormFlow, the file sizes ranged from 178 kilobytes to one megabyte, because you have the form and the data that had to go together. These smaller file sizes mean they won't use up as much bandwidth, which is a concern to the warfighter."

The technology was demonstrated at the Pentagon in early July.

"You dream about things like this and to finally see it now is wonderful," said Tech. Sgt. Duane Presing, an information manager with Air Force financial management who has used forms on a daily basis for 20 years. "This is leaps and bounds over what we've ever had in the past. I'm very happy the Air Force is replacing FormFlow and can't wait to use the new system."

# NEWS BRIEFS

## Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Staff Sgt. Pam Smith

### Senior Airman Carnard Drayton II 437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron

Senior Airman Carnard Drayton is an air transportation journeyman assigned to Cargo Processing in the 437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron.

"When cargo comes in, we process, palletize and prepare it for shipment," Drayton said. "The best part of this job though is working so close to the flightline."

The 20-year-old Irmo, S.C., native has been in the Air Force two years and hopes to make it a career.

"I wasn't ready for college and really didn't have the money to go, so I opted for the Air Force," Drayton said. He wants to get a degree in management or marketing and has given thought to eventually going to Officer Training School.

Drayton has deployed to Spain and said he is scheduled to deploy again in February in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"I like to travel and am looking forward to more opportunities," he said. "The best part of being stationed at Charleston is being close to home but I want to be stationed overseas."

When he's not working, Drayton enjoys hanging out with his friends.

Riddle Aeronautical University will be through Dec. 23 and Jan. 2-3 at the Community Education Center, Room 128. New students should call 767-8912 to make an appointment.

**CC of C:** Term III of the City Colleges of Chicago will commence classes at the Community Education Center on Jan. 13. Registration is in progress and many courses offer morning, noon and evening sessions. Astronomy, Biology, English, History and Algebra are some of the classes offered. Stop by the education office or call 552-5959 for more information or to register.

**VFW:** Military members who have earned hostile fire or imminent danger pay are eligible to join the Veterans of Foreign Wars of United States. For more information, call Dave Mellert at 871-2407.

**Pharmacy correction:** To place a refill for the pharmacy, call 963-6833.

**Youth sports:** To get details about youth sports programs, call the 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron's new recorded message line at 963-TEAM.

## Spotlight

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Tracy Brewster Dec. 20, 1 p.m., at the AMC Passenger Terminal, Bldg. 164. For more information, call Master Sgt. Mark Cordisco at 963-6299 or Ron Westall at 963-3240.

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Chief Master Sgt. Jenonia Awalt Dec. 16, 2 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Lawrence Strother at 963-4591.

## Around the base

**OSA:** The Officers' Spouses Association will be hosting their Christmas event Tuesday, 4 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Please bring a wrapped Christmas ornament to exchange. Cost is \$9 for club members and \$11 for nonmembers. For reservations, call Donna Baker at 207-0401 by Dec. 15, 5 p.m.

**ESC:** The next Enlisted Support Club meeting will be Wednesday,

6:30 p.m. at the Family Support Center. There will be a potluck supper and small gift exchange. For more information or to make a reservation, call Marcia Lytton at 760-6892 by Sunday.

**Chapel:** A Single Parent Holiday Party is Wednesday, 6 p.m., at the Chapel Annex.

**Chiefs' Group:** The Chiefs' Group will hold their monthly meeting Thursday, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. All chiefs and chief-selects are invited and encouraged to attend.

**Commissary:** The Commissary will be open Dec. 23, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Dec. 24, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and will be closed for Christmas and New Year's Day.

**Housing:** Fire extinguishers are available at the Housing Office for those living on base who have not picked theirs up. This is a mandatory requirement, and it is the resident's responsibility to pick up a fire extinguisher and install it.

**Embry Riddle:** Early pre-regis-

tration for Spring I graduate and undergraduate classes for Embry

## Mandatory pre-separation briefing available at FSC

*Law requires briefing 90 days prior to terminal leave*

By GEORGE FERGUSON  
437MSS FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Are you retiring or separating within the next 18 months?

If so, contact the Family Support Center to schedule a mandatory pre-separation briefing. Public law requires a briefing no later than 90 days prior to the separation date, ideally 90 days prior to starting terminal leave.

Recent change in Public Law allows pre-separation briefings to be conducted 18 months prior to date of separation. Planning ahead is the key to a smooth transition.

The FSC offers a three-day Transition Assistance Workshop each month to assist with the transition to civilian life and recommends members within 18 months of their date of separation attend this important program along with their spouses.

Topics covered include: how to write effective resumes; job search and interviewing techniques; Veteran Affairs benefits; how to apply for federal employment and much more.

On the final day of the workshop, the FSC conducts a Mini Job Fair. Companies represented have employment opportunities and are looking for military personnel to fill them. Opportunities vary each month, and people can call to see if there is anything of interest.

For additional information, or to schedule a pre-separation briefing or to sign up for the workshop, call the FSC at 963-4406.

# AROUND THE AIR FORCE

## Assignment system upgrades in progress

The nearly 30,000 officers and enlisted members who access the online Assignment Management System each day are experiencing technology's classic "good news, bad news" story.

An upgrade will improve access speed and allow AMS to support the total force development concept, but until it is complete, users worldwide only have access for 20 hours per day.

To allow technical upgrades and keep internal personnel processes up to speed, customers will not be able to access AMS weekdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. CST. The work is in progress and should be completed by mid-January, said officials at the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, Texas.

AMS lets all airmen view their personal information, lets commanders weigh in on officer assignment preferences and provides a platform for eVector, an online mentoring tool. Enlisted people can view and volunteer for quarterly assignments and officers can fill out and update their preference worksheets.

During system down times, airmen with urgent assignment issues can call the Air Force Contact Center toll free at (866) 229-7074 or DSN 665-5000, or get help online at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.

*(Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service.)*

## Thrift Savings Plan open season ends Dec. 31

Civilian and military employees still have time to sign up for or change Thrift Savings Plan accounts during the current open season.

"With the holiday season rapidly approaching, we want to remind everyone that open season dates have changed, and this year ends earlier than in past years," said Janet Thomas of the Air Force Personnel Center's Civilian Benefits and Entitlements Service Team at Randolph AFB, Texas. The last day TSP open season elections can be made is Dec. 31.

Changes made after Dec. 1 will become effective the beginning of the following pay period for civilians and the following month for military.

Specific information is available for civilian employees from the Thrift

Savings Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov/> or the BEST home page at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST/menu.htm> and for Air Force military personnel at [http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift\\_savings\\_plan.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift_savings_plan.htm).

*(Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service.)*

## Officer convicted of obstruction of justice

A former commander with 19 years and 10 months of service was convicted of a variety of crimes and dismissed from the Air Force during a three-week general court-martial at Osan Air Base, South Korea.

Lt. Col. Joseph E. Wilson Jr., assigned to the 554th Red Horse Squadron, was charged with creating a false document, unlawfully removing his 2001 Officer Performance Report from his official record at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii; obstruction of justice by asking his first sergeant to shred Wilson's 2001 OPR in his official record at Osan; obstruction of justice by asking his first

sergeant to lie to Air Force Office of Special Investigations officials; creating a fictitious 2001 OPR for himself; creating a fictitious 2000 OPR for himself and wrongfully preventing his genuine 2001 OPR from being entered into his official records.

Wilson pleaded not guilty to all charges and elected to be tried by a military judge instead of a panel of officers. The judge sentenced Wilson to a dismissal from the Air Force.

*(Courtesy of Air Force Print News.)*

## Electric vehicles help reduce petroleum fuels

The Air Force is using less petroleum products in California now thanks to a donation by a major automotive corporation.

The first of 112 electric vehicles donated by Global Electric Motorcars, a subsidiary of Daimler Chrysler, were delivered to four California Air Force installations in October.

The street-legal electric vehicles can be used in situations where a lightweight sedan or pickup truck is

normally used, said Lt. Col. William Fisher, chief of the Air Force vehicle policy team here.

The zero-emission vehicles being used at Vandenberg, Edwards and Los Angeles Air Force bases, as well as for Onizuka Air Force Station, are in line with the Air Force's efforts to reduce use of petroleum products.

In accordance with the Energy Policy Act and Executive Order 13149, signed by former President Clinton in April 2000, federal agencies are required to acquire alternative-fuel vehicles and reduce the use of petroleum products through the use of alternative fuels.

The 112 electric vehicles are just a part of the Air Force's overall effort to reduce dependence on petroleum products, Fisher said.

"This helps us to reduce petroleum consumption and helps displace some of our less fuel-efficient vehicles," Fisher said. "In the long run, we will reduce the amount of petroleum use on these bases."

*(Courtesy of Air Force Print News.)*

## Combat Camera Photo of the Week



*Photo by Tech. Sgt. Steve Faulisi, 1 CTCS*

### Eyes on the future

Afghan girls wait to be seen during a Medical Civil Assistance Program visit to their village. MEDCAPs provide free medical and dental care to Afghans. They also provide literature on the dangers of unexploded ordnance and why United States forces are in their country.

# FEATURE



Joshua Kincade, son of Shelly Kincald, 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron, and Senior Airman Shane Kincald, 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, sprinkles glitter on a stocking to be hung in the Youth Center.



Ariel Ulanoff (left), daughter of Cynthia and Tech. Sgt. John Ulanoff, 373<sup>rd</sup> Training Squadron, and Savannah Odermatt, daughter of Staff Sgt. Shane Odermatt, 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron, hang ornaments on a Christmas tree.

*Visions of sugar plums dance in their heads ...*

## CAFB youth eagerly await the arrival of Santa's sleigh

STORY AND PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. MIKE DUHE  
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The holiday season is in full swing at the Youth Center and children on base are eagerly anticipating Christmas.

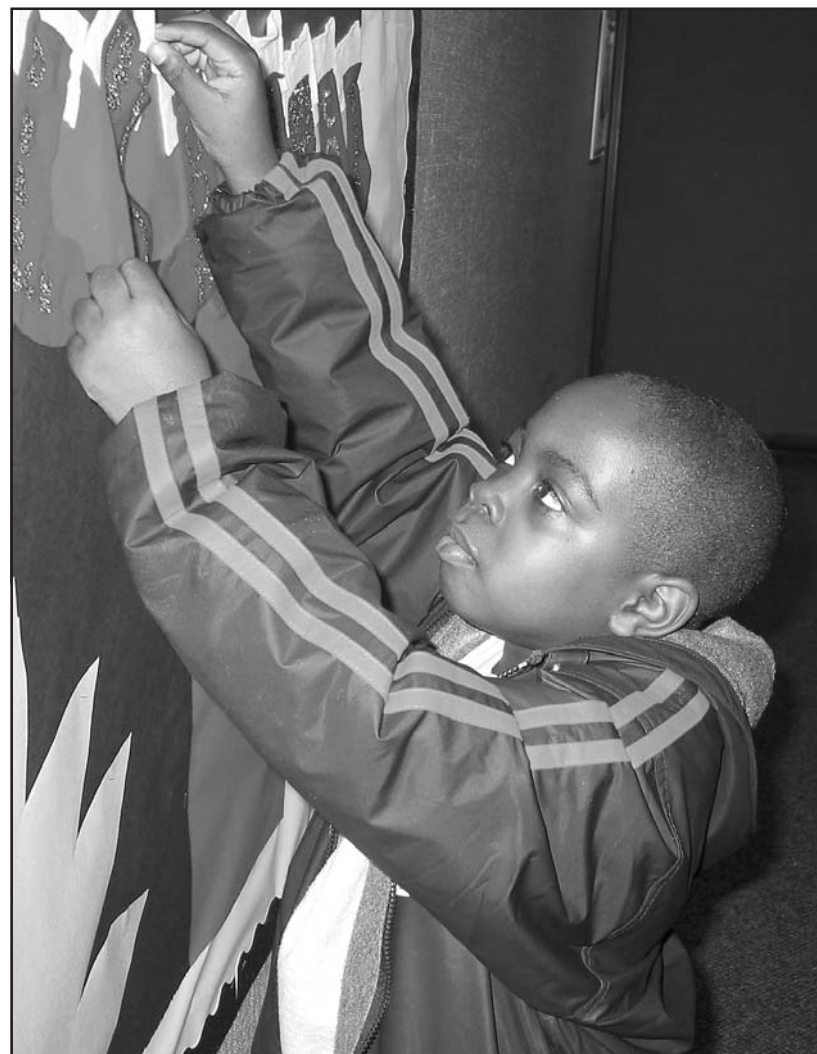
Youth Center staff and children recently put up holiday decorations throughout the facility, covering bulletin boards and walls with stockings made of construction paper and cotton, as well as other festive items.

A Christmas tree near the front desk was decorated with garland, shiny ornaments and tinsel. Angel tree ornaments with the names of children on base were later added and everyone is welcome to drop by the Youth Center and pick a name.

The staff and children also teamed up to help design some of the postcards displaying holiday greetings along Hill Blvd.

The Youth Center will hold a holiday party Saturday that will include music, games, drawings for prizes, refreshments, photos and a visit from Santa.

For more information on any of this event, call the Youth Center at 963-568.



Brandon Mallory, son of Staff Sgt. Amanda Mallory, Navy Brig, hangs stockings on a Christmas bulletin board.

## Chapel schedule



**107 Arthur Drive**  
**Office:** Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
**Phone:** 963-2536.

After duty hours, call the command post at 963-2531 for emergencies only.

**Catholic Services:** *Saturday* - 4 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass. *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church. *Weekdays* - 11:30 a.m. Mass. Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex.

**Protestant Services:** *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service and 11 a.m. Children's Church. *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Bldg. 217 (old Chapel).

**Buddhist:** Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405. Phone: (803) 254-9048.

**Orthodox:** Holy Trinity, Greek Orthodox Church, 30 Race St., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 577-2063.

**Jewish:** Synagogue Emanu-El, 5 Windsor Dr., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 571-3264.

**Islamic:** Al-Jami Ar-Rasheed, 1998 Hugo Ave., Charleston Heights, S.C. Phone: 554-1773.

## Movie schedule

**Admission:** 99 cents for adults and children.

Any person under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (a minimum of 21 years old) to purchase an admission ticket for the minor to view R-rated movies. The ticket office opens 30 minutes prior to start of movie, unless otherwise noted.



**Movie schedules are provided by AAFES. Patrons should call 963-3333 to verify movie titles, running times and start times,**

**which are subject to change.**

**Tonight, 7:30 p.m.**

***"Formula 51" – Samuel L. Jackson***

Elmo and his blue magic formula has sparked a gold rush. Everyone wants a piece of the action. Who will outsmart whom? Who will double-cross whom? But most importantly, who will walk away with the formula? **(R) 93 minutes**

**Saturday, 7:30 p.m.**

***"Ghost Ship" – Gabriel Byrne***

In a remote region of the Bering Sea, a boat salvage crew discovers the eerie remains of a grand passenger liner thought lost for more than 40 years. Once onboard, the crew must confront the ship's horrific past and face the ultimate fight for their lives. **(R) 94 minutes**

**Dec. 20, 7:30 p.m.**

***"I Spy" – Eddie Murphy***

Based on the 1960s television series "I Spy," Secret Agent Scott recruits professional boxer Robinson to help him recover the U.S. government's prototype spy plane. **(PG-13) 97 minutes**

## SPORTS & FITNESS

# Swami back in town, looking for revenge

By THE SWAMI

PIGSKIN PROGNOSTICATOR

He's baaaacccckkkkk! Yes indeed, the one and only Swami has returned to the Lowcountry after a three-week absence. The Swami was fuming when he returned to see some unknown writer had tarnished his name and image.

"Forget about everything you read in the last three weeks," said the Swami.

Some unknown people have been after the Swami for years, and the Swami has managed to elude them time after time.

The Swami was busy in New York rubbing elbows with the big dogs of Jets ownership.

The Jets are hot lately, winning five of their last six to be right in the middle of the playoff race, thanks mainly to the Swami for sharing his valuable knowledge.

The Swami attended the Jets/Bills game two weeks ago in New York, which the Jets won, thanks in part to Chad Pennington, who juked out the Bills with some sweet moves he learned from the Swami.

Now to catch everyone up with the Swami pigskin pickers, here are the results of the

past three weeks. Ron Desautels won week 12 with an ugly 10-6 record. Desautels beat out Alison Beathea's 9-7 record. It was a bad week for everyone. There were seven people tied for the worst record of 5-11.

Week 13 was won by Dennis "Aldo the Greek" Ingold. Ingold finished 14-2, beating out the Swami and Shannon Johnson's 13-3 records.

Warning from the Swami: lookout for Ingold! The Swami took a peek at the most recent standings, and Aldo the Greek was near the top. Ingold is looking to three-peat for the Swami Cup.

The Swami will give you the updated top-10 list next week.

The worst for week 13 was Ron Desautels with his 8-8 record. Desautels went from first to worst.

The winner of week 14 is Scott Bartley. Bartley was 13-3, edging out Aldo the Greek's 12-4 record. Guess who was last? You guessed it! Ron Desautels was the worst at 7-9.

The Swami is glad to be back in town and wants to thank his fans for their loyal support and for sending cards, candy and flowers during his absence.

Week 16

Name/Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday, Dec. 21

**Miami** @ Minnesota

**San Francisco** @ Arizona

**Philadelphia** @ Dallas

Detroit @ **Atlanta**

Chicago @ **Carolina**

**New Orleans** @ Cincinnati

Buffalo @ **Green Bay**

N.Y. Giants @ **Indianapolis**

**Tennessee** @ Jacksonville

San Diego @ **Kansas City**

Houston @ **Washington**

**St. Louis** @ Seattle

**Cleveland** @ Baltimore

Denver @ **Oakland**

N.Y. Jets @ **New England**

Monday, Dec. 22

Pittsburgh @ **Tampa Bay**

Monday night total points: \_\_\_\_\_

Swami's Monday night points: **35**

Swami's picks are in bold and italics.

Send your picks to: Swami@charleston.af.mil

**\*\*Picks must be submitted by Friday, Nov. 13, 4 p.m.\*\***